

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the order in Rule 353 in subsection 1 in paragraph A in the 2nd line by inserting after the following: "individuals" the following: 'established in an Act, Resolve or Joint Order or by the Legislative Council'

Amend the order in Rule 353 in subsection 2 in the last line by inserting after the following: "introduced." the following: 'A joint standing committee may report out a joint study order requesting that a study be conducted.'

Amend the order in Rule 353 in subsection 3 in the 3rd line by inserting after the following: "subsection 4." the following: 'The legislative study committee must include members of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature.'

Amend the order in Rule 353 in subsection 4 in the last line by inserting after the following: "legislation." the following: 'The chair of a legislative study having 5 or fewer members shall appoint a chair pro tem from among the appointed members to serve in the chair's absence.'

SUMMARY

This amendment represents the vote of the majority of the members on the Joint Select Committee on Joint Rules.

1. It clarifies that the joint rule applies to legislative studies created by an act, resolve or joint study order or by the Legislative Council.

2. It adds a provision allowing joint standing committees to report out joint study orders.

3. It requires that a study committee subject to the guidelines must include members of the 2 parties holding the largest number of legislative seats.

4. It directs a chair of a legislative study having 5 or fewer members to appoint a chair pro tem to serve during the chair's absence.